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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Hitoshi TANAKA

Group Art Unit : 2851

Appl. No. : 10/775,081

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : February 11, 2004

Confirmation No. : 1586

For : SWITCHING/MOVING STRUCTURE OF A ZOOM LENS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,
Applicant hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

U.S. Patent No. 6,369,955 to ENOMOTO et al., which issued on April 9, 2002
together with patent family member Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-
275518, which was published on October 6, 2000. Applicant notes that these documents
are discussed on page 16 of the specification;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-215381, which was published
on August 10, 2001, together with an English language translation of the same;

U.S. Patent No. 6,493,512 to SATO, which issued on December 10, 2002; and

U.S. Patent No. 6,512,638 to SATO et al., which issued on January 28, 2003.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the
requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed

herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending, commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/731,473 to TANAKA et al., entitled "Step-Zoom Lens," which was filed on December 10, 2003; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/731,475 to TANAKA et al., entitled "Lens Distance-Varying Mechanism, and Step-Zoom Lens Incorporating the Same," which was filed on December 10, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-noted applications are attached. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any

fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37
C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the
undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

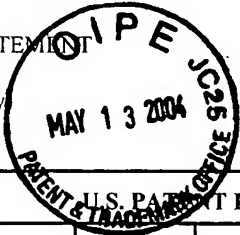
Respectfully Submitted,
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May 11, 2004
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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. P24590		Serial No. 10/775,081	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant Hitoshi TANAKA			
				Filing Date February 11, 2004		Group 2851	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6	3	6	9	9	5	5	04/09/02	ENOMOTO et al.			
		6	4	9	3	5	1	2	12/10/02	SATO			
		6	5	1	2	6	3	8	01/28/03	SATO et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS															
		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	2000	-	2	7	5	5	1	8	10/06/00	JAPAN					
	2001	-	2	1	5	3	8	1	08/10/01	JAPAN				X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)												

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.